

Fact Sheet

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Labor Market Report Highlights April 2015

Learn about the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted numbers [here](#).

Labor Force and Unemployment

- The April 2015 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.3 percent, up from 4.2 percent in March and down from 4.5 percent in April 2014.
- The April 2015 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Kansas was 4.3 percent, unchanged from March, and up from 4.2 percent one year ago.
- There were 12,780 initial claims for unemployment benefits in April 2015, up from 11,170 in March and up from 10,186 in April 2014. There were 74,735 continued claims in April, down from 103,382 the previous month and down from 77,722 in April 2014.

Jobs Data

Seasonally Adjusted

- The state added 11,300 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs over the year, a 1 percent gain. Kansas gained 11,700 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs since April 2014, a 0.8 percent increase.
- Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs decreased by 2,900 since last month, a 0.3 percent decline. Since March, the state lost 2,300 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, a 0.2 percent decrease.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Kansas gained 9,400 private sector jobs since April 2014, a 0.8 percent increase. The state gained 9,300 nonfarm jobs over the year, a 0.7 percent increase.
- Private sector jobs increased by 9,900 since March, a 0.9 percent increase. Over the month, Kansas gained 9,600 nonfarm jobs, a 0.7 percent increase.

Industry Breakdown

- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the year job gains. These gains were greatest in:
 - Leisure and hospitality increased by 3,500 jobs, a 2.9 percent gain. The gains were in food service and drinking places.
 - Construction gained 3,100 jobs, a 5.2 percent increase. The increases were in specialty trade contractors.

- Professional and business services added 2,200 jobs, a 1.3 percent gain. The gains were in management of companies and enterprises, and administrative and support, waste management and remediation services.
- Four of the 11 major industries reported statewide over the year job losses. These were greatest in:
 - Manufacturing declined by 3,100 jobs, or 1.9 percent, with losses throughout the sector.
 - Mining and logging decreased by 800 jobs, or 7.5 percent. The mining and logging industry includes oil and gas production.
 - Other services declined by 400 jobs, or 0.8 percent.
- Five of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the month job gains. The gains were greatest in:
 - Construction increased by 3,900 jobs, or 6.6 percent. The increases were in heavy and civil engineering construction, and specialty trade contractors.
 - Leisure and hospitality gained 3,300 jobs, a 2.7 percent increase, with gains throughout the sector.
 - Professional and business services added 2,400 jobs, or 1.4 percent. The increases were in administrative and support, waste management and remediation services.
- Six of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported a loss over the month. The losses were greatest in:
 - Manufacturing declined by 2,300 jobs, or 1.4 percent. The losses were nearly all in durable goods.
 - Financial activities decreased by 300 jobs, or 0.4 percent. The declines were in finance and insurance.
 - Government lost 300 jobs, or 0.1 percent. The declines were at the state and local levels.

Private Sector Earnings

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Private sector average weekly earnings increased by \$3.64, or 0.5 percent, since last year, to a total of \$759.41.
- Trade, transportation and utilities increased the most in earnings since last year. Average weekly earnings in this industry increased by \$57.56, or 8.2 percent, since April 2014, to a total of \$762.41.
- Professional and business services also had notable increases. Average weekly earnings increased by \$20.30, or 2.3 percent, since last year, to a total of \$888.26.

The May 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, June 19.

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